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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/394,902	09/13/1999	Steven L. Stice	000270-026	5113

909 7590 08/22/2002
PILLSBURY WINTHROP, LLP
P.O. BOX 10500
MCLEAN, VA 22102

EXAMINER

TON, THAIAN N

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1632

DATE MAILED: 08/22/2002

13

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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EXAMINER

Thaian N. Ton

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Commissioner of Patents

The communication filed June 6, 2002 is not fully responsive to the Office communication mailed December 6, 2001, with regard to the obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 1-5, 17-24, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 36 and 37 over claims 1-26 of U.S. Patent No. 6,235,969 B1 and the obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 1-5, 11, 12-14, 17-24 and 29 over claims 1-19, 21 and 22 of U.S. Patent No. 5,945,577 [see p. 3 of the prior Office action].

Since the reply appears to be bona fide attempt, Applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of **ONE (1) MONTH** from the mailing date of this communication within which to correct the deficiency in order to avoid abandonment of the application. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thaian N. Ton whose telephone number is (703) 305-1019. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 5:00 (Eastern Standard Time), with alternating Fridays off. Should the examiner be unavailable, inquiries should be directed to Deborah Reynolds, Supervisory Primary Examiner of Art Unit 1632, at (703) 305-4051. Any administrative or procedural questions should be directed to Patsy Zimmerman, Patent Analyst, at (703) 305-2758. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 1600 via the PTO Fax Center located in Crystal Mall 1. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The CM1 Fax Center number is (703) 308-8724.

Deborah Crouch
DEBORAH CROUCH
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1800/630

TNT

Thaian N. Ton
Patent Examiner
Group 1632